

## WE CLAIM

- 1           1.     A method, comprising:  
2           detecting an object associated with a web page;  
3           assessing which of plural trust levels is to be accorded to the object; and  
4           suppressing the object based on the accorded trust level.
- 1           2.     A method according to Claim 1, wherein the object is one of a COM  
2     object or an ActiveX control.
- 1           3.     A method according to Claim 1, wherein the object is embedded in  
2     the web page, and includes any one of downloadable code, a link to a URL, a popup  
3     window, graphic data, a video file, an audio file, and a text file.
- 1           4.     A method according to Claim 1, wherein the object is a link to an  
2     object on a remote server, wherein further the object on the remote server includes any  
3     one of downloadable code, a URL, a popup window, graphic data, a video file, an audio  
4     file, and a text file.
- 1           5.     A method according to Claim 1,  
2           wherein assessing which of the plural trust levels is to be accorded to the  
3     object evaluates criteria including whether the object is from a trusted source, whether the  
4     object is to upgrade an existing object, and whether a download flag is set, and

5                wherein further suppressing the object includes displaying a prompt to  
6 indicate the suppression of the object based upon a positive evaluation of any of the  
7 criteria.

1                6.     A method according to Claim 5, wherein the prompt is a modal  
2 prompt to provide a user with an activation choice.

1                7.     A method according to Claim 5, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2 prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed.

1                8.     A method according to Claim 5, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2 prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed and to provide the user with an  
3 activation choice.

1                9.     A method according to Claim 1,  
2                wherein assessing which of the plural trust levels is to be accorded to the  
3 object evaluates criteria including whether the object is to be rendered and whether a  
4 download flag is set, and

5                wherein further suppressing the object includes displaying a prompt to  
6 indicate the suppression of the object based upon a positive evaluation of any of the  
7 criteria.

1                10.    A method according to Claim 9, wherein the prompt is a modal  
2 prompt to provide a user with an activation choice.

1                    11.    A method according to Claim 9, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2    prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed.

1                    12.    A method according to Claim 9, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2    prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed and to provide the user with an  
3    activation choice.

1                    13.    A method according to Claim 1,  
2                    wherein assessing which of the plural trust levels is to be accorded to the  
3    object determines whether the object is a popup window, and  
4                    wherein further suppressing the object includes displaying a prompt to  
5    indicate the suppression of the object based upon a positive determination.

1                    14.    A method according to Claim 13, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2    prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed.

1                    15.    A method according to Claim 13, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2    prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed and to provide the user with an  
3    activation choice.

1                    16.    A method according to Claim 1,  
2                    wherein assessing which of the plural trust levels is to be accorded to the  
3    object evaluates criteria including whether the object is beneath a security setting and  
4    whether a security setting flag is set, and

5                wherein further suppressing the object includes displaying a prompt to  
6 indicate the suppression of the object based upon a positive evaluation of any of the  
7 criteria.

1                17.    A method according to Claim 16, wherein the prompt is a modal  
2 prompt to provide a user with an activation choice.

1                18.    A method according to Claim 16, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2 prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed.

1                19.    A method according to Claim 16, wherein the prompt is a modeless  
2 prompt to advise a user of the object being suppressed and to provide the user with an  
3 activation choice.

1                20.    A method according to Claim 1, wherein suppressing the object  
2 includes displaying a user interface to describe the content of the suppressed object and to  
3 provide a user with an opportunity to activate the content of the suppressed object.

1                21.    A computer-readable medium having one or more instructions that,  
2 when read, cause one or more processors to:  
3                determine a trust level for an object associated with a web page;  
4                suppress an action associated with the object based on the trust level; and  
5                provide an activation opportunity for the action.

1           22.    A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the  
2   object is one of a COM object or an ActiveX control.

1           23.    A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the  
2   object is embedded in the web page, and includes any one of a downloadable file, a link  
3   to another file, a popup window, graphic data, a video file, an audio file, and a text file.

1           24.    A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21, wherein the  
2   object is a link to an object on a remote server, wherein further the object on the remote  
3   server includes any one of a downloadable file, another web page, a popup window,  
4   graphic data, a video file, an audio file, and a text file.

1           25.    A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21,  
2                    wherein the one or more instructions to determine the trust level for the  
3   object causes the one or more processors to evaluate criteria including whether the object  
4   is from a trusted source, whether the object is to upgrade an existing file, and whether a  
5   download flag is set, and

6                    wherein further the one or more instructions to provide the activation  
7   opportunity for the action causes the one or more processors to display a user interface  
8   indicating the suppression of the action due to a positive evaluation of any of the criteria  
9   and offering an activation option.

1           26.    A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25, wherein the  
2   user interface is a modal prompt.

1           27. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 25, wherein the  
2 user interface is a modeless prompt.

1           28. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21,  
2 wherein the one or more instructions to determine the trust level for the  
3 object causes the one or more processors to evaluate criteria including whether the object  
4 is to be rendered and whether a download flag is set, and  
5 wherein further the one or more instructions to provide an activation  
6 opportunity for the action causes the one or more processors to display a user interface  
7 indicating the suppression of the action due to a positive evaluation of any of the criteria  
8 and offering an activation option.

1           29. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 28, wherein the  
2 user interface is a modal prompt.

1           30. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 28, wherein the  
2 prompt is a modeless prompt.

1           31. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21,  
2 wherein the one or more instructions to determine the trust level for the  
3 object causes the one or more processors to determine whether the object is a popup  
4 window, and  
5 wherein further the one or more instructions to provide an activation  
6 opportunity for the action causes the one or more processors to display a user interface

7 indicating the suppression of the action due to a positive determination and offering an  
8 activation option.

1           32. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 31, wherein the  
2 prompt is a modeless prompt.

1           33. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 21,  
2 wherein the one or more instructions to determine the trust level for the  
3 object causes the one or more processors to evaluate criteria including whether the object  
4 is beneath a security setting and whether a security setting flag is set, and  
5 wherein further the one or more instructions to provide an activation  
6 opportunity for the action causes the one or more processors to display a user interface  
7 indicating the suppression of the action due to a positive evaluation of either of the  
8 criteria and offering an activation option.

1           34. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 33, wherein the  
2 prompt is a modal prompt.

1           35. A computer-readable medium according to Claim 33, wherein the  
2 prompt is a modeless prompt.

1           36. An apparatus, comprising:  
2 a detector to detect an object associated with a web page;  
3 an analyzer to perform a trust analysis for the object;  
4 a blocker to block an action associated with the object; and

5                   an interface to provide an activation opportunity.

1                   37.    An apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the object is one of a  
2   COM object or an ActiveX control.

1                   38.    An apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the object is embedded  
2   in the web page, and includes any one of downloadable code, a link to a URL, a popup  
3   window, graphic data, a video file, an audio file, and a text file.

1                   39.    An apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the object is a link to  
2   an object on a remote server, wherein further the object on the remote server includes any  
3   one of downloadable code, a URL, a popup window, graphic data, a video file, an audio  
4   file, and a text file.

1                   40.    An apparatus according to Claim 36,  
2                   wherein the analyzer is to evaluate criteria including whether the object is  
3   from a trusted source, whether the object is to upgrade an existing object, and whether a  
4   download flag is set, and  
5                   wherein further the blocker is to display a prompt indicating that the action  
6   has been blocked based upon a positive evaluation of any of the criteria.

1                   41.    An apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the prompt is a modal  
2   user interface to provide a user with an activation choice.



1           42.    An apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the prompt is a  
2 modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked.

1           43.    An apparatus according to Claim 40, wherein the prompt is a  
2 modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked and to provide the  
3 user with an activation choice.

1           44.    An apparatus according to Claim 36,  
2                wherein the analyzer is to evaluate criteria including whether the object is  
3 to be rendered and whether a download flag is set, and  
4                wherein further the blocker is to display a prompt indicating that the action  
5 has been blocked based upon a positive evaluation of any of the criteria.

1           45.    An apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein the prompt is a modal  
2 user interface to provide a user with an activation choice.

1           46.    An apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein the prompt is a  
2 modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked.

1           47.    An apparatus according to Claim 44, wherein the prompt is a  
2 modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked and to provide the  
3 user with an activation choice.

1           48.    An apparatus according to Claim 36,  
2           wherein the analyzer is to determine whether the object is a popup window,  
3   and  
4           wherein further the blocker is to display a prompt indicating that the action  
5   has been blocked based upon a positive determination.

1           49.    An apparatus according to Claim 48, wherein the prompt is a  
2   modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked.

1           50.    An apparatus according to Claim 48, wherein the prompt is a  
2   modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked and to provide the  
3   user with an activation choice.

1           51.    An apparatus according to Claim 36,  
2           wherein the analyzer is to evaluate criteria including whether the object is  
3   beneath a security setting and whether a security setting flag is set, and  
4           wherein further the blocker is to display a prompt indicating that the action  
5   has been blocked based upon a positive evaluation of any of the criteria.

1           52.    An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein the prompt is a modal  
2   user interface to provide a user with an activation choice.

1           53.    An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein the prompt is a  
2   modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked.

1           54.    An apparatus according to Claim 51, wherein the prompt is a  
2   modeless user interface to advise a user of the action being blocked and to provide the  
3   user with an activation choice.

1           55.    An apparatus according to Claim 36, wherein the blocker is to  
2   display a user interface to describe the content of the suppressed action and to provide a  
3   user with an opportunity to activate the action of the object.

1           56.    An apparatus, comprising:  
2                means for detecting an object associated with a media object;  
3                means for performing a trust analysis for the object;  
4                means for blocking an action associated with the object; and  
5                means for providing an activation opportunity.

1           57.    An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the media object is a  
2   web page.

1           58.    An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the media object is a  
2   computer-readable media object.

1           59.    An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the object is one of a  
2   COM object or an ActiveX control.

1           60.    An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the object is embedded  
2 in the web page, and includes any one of downloadable code, a link to a URL, a popup  
3 window, graphic data, a video file, an audio file, and a text file.

1           61.    An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the object is a link to  
2 an object on a remote server, wherein further the object on the remote server includes any  
3 one of downloadable code, a URL, a popup window, graphic data, a video file, an audio  
4 file, and a text file.

1           62.    An apparatus according to Claim 56,  
2           wherein the means for performing a trust analysis is to evaluate criteria  
3 including whether the object is from a trusted source, whether the object is to upgrade an  
4 existing object, and whether a download flag is set, and  
5           wherein further the means for blocking is to display a prompt indicating  
6 that the action has been blocked based upon a positive evaluation of any of the criteria.

1           63.    An apparatus according to Claim 56,  
2           wherein the means for performing a trust analysis is to evaluate criteria  
3 including whether the object is to be rendered and whether a download flag is set, and  
4           wherein further the means for blocking is to display a prompt indicating  
5 that the action has been blocked based upon a positive evaluation of any of the criteria.

1           64.    An apparatus according to Claim 56,  
2           wherein the means for performing a trust analysis is to determine whether  
3 the object is a popup window, and  
4           wherein further the means for blocking is to display a prompt indicating  
5 that the action has been blocked based upon a positive determination.

1           65.    An apparatus according to Claim 56,  
2           wherein the means for performing a trust analysis is to evaluate criteria  
3 including whether the object is beneath a security setting and whether a security setting  
4 flag is set, and  
5           wherein further the means for blocking is to display a prompt indicating  
6 that the action has been blocked based upon a positive evaluation of any of the criteria.

1           66.    An apparatus according to Claim 56, wherein the means for blocking  
2 is to display a user interface to describe the content of the suppressed action and to  
3 provide a user with an opportunity to activate the action of the object.